292272US0PCT Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are currently amended.

The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies, for minor editorial purposes, and to clarify claim language, in accordance with standard U.S. patent practice.

The amendments are supported by the claims and throughout the specification, as originally filed.

Upon entry of the amendment, claims 1-16 will be pending in this application.

No new matter is believed to have been added by the amendments. An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. Norman F. Oblon

Customer Number 22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 06/04)

Bryant L. Young

Registration No. 49,09